



## City of Annapolis

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### Annapolis Environmental Commission

May 7, 2014

The Annapolis Environmental Commission (AEC) held its regular meeting on May 7, 2014 at 145 Gorman Street, Conference Room 3. **Chair** Riegel called the meeting to order at 7:13p.m.

**Present:** Chair Riegel, Vice Chair Kissel, Butler, Weber

**Absent:** Kiraly, Zolper, O'Leary, Pogell

**Staff Present:** Biba, Waters

**Guest:** Ralph Dubaya, UMD, Paul Murphy

#### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/VISITOR INTRODUCTION

Mr. Ralph Dubaya of the University of Maryland provided a PowerPoint presentation on the tree canopy and sequestered biomass. He provided background on how this project was initiated. He briefly discussed the slides that show the UMD activities on this project; the completed products; how the tree canopy is processed using imagery, LIDAR (Light Detection Air and Ranging) and parcels; and the canopy coverage requirements for the State of Maryland, the LIDAR Surface Model; and monitoring through time. He met with the State to propose completing a project in Maryland every three years using LIDAR and Imagery to allow the maps to be generated every three years. Mr. Dubaya will work with Mr. Jarleth to cross calibrate earlier data of 2006 with the 2014 data as well as work with Ms. Wampler in order to give AEC data for Annapolis.

#### IV. REGULAR BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

##### A. Approval of Prior Minutes

###### March 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The voting on the March 5, 2014 meeting minutes were deferred to allow for further edits.

###### April 2, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The voting on the April 2, 2014 meeting minutes were deferred to allow for further edits.

##### B. Development Review

###### a. Reserve at Quiet Waters Appeals

There was no report on this agenda item.

###### b. Crystal Spring Update

Ms. Butler reported that there was a meeting **on this and another development project held on April 4, 2014** with the Mayor, **Acting City Attorney Timothy Murnane**, Alderman Littman, **Assistant City Attorney Gary Elson**, Dan Bucheli, two CBF attorneys, A. Prost and E. Lutz, Chesapeake Legal Alliance Attorney J. Iliff and Ms. Butler. While primarily the meeting was to talk about the Reserve at Quiet Waters and the status of the City's Forest Conservation Ordinance, the discussion also included the Mayor's update to the group on his position on the Crystal Spring

development. He reiterated that he has told the developer and his staff that he does not want any of the development to stretch below the intermittent stream. Ms. Butler indicated to the AEC that the developers are aware of this but will still be submitting an application after revising their plans by only moving the CCRC building north of the intermittent stream rather than ALL of the buildings.

c. **Thomas Woods**

DNEP provided written comments.

d. **Primrose Hill on Milkshake Lane**

DNEP provided written comments

e. **Rodgers Property (Bembe Beach Road)**

DNEP provided written comments.

f. **The Enclave at Spa Road**

DNEP provided written comments.

g. **Hayes Annexation Property**

DNEP provided written comments.

h. **Rocky Gorge**

DNEP provided written comments.

**C. Outreach/Recycling**

There was no report.

**D. Water Quality/Stormwater**

**Chair** Riegel reiterated that the No Discharge Zone was discussed at the Mayor's May 2, 2014 meeting.

**Farragut Stream Restoration**

There was a discussion regarding the work being completed at the Farragut Stream Restoration site. **Vice Chair** Kissel asked why the **City** is proposing to complete the **lower** part of the stream restoration project first and asked if there should be an analysis to determine the best approach **since it seems logical to make sure that we won't have to redo the lower part again later**. Mr. Biba said that the work is based on velocity **of the water flowing in the stream** and not on volume that may be the purpose for the upper portion being completed first. Ms. Butler asked if the City could **hold off** expending **any more** design money or **if it's too late**, hold off of on spending the construction monies **until we are sure this is the most fiscally responsible way to approach the project**. **Mr. Biba** discussed the available funding and how \$100,000 is for the design phase and \$300,000 for construction in FY13. There is another \$400,000 in FY14 and \$575,000 in grant funding in FY15 to be spent on the project. Mr. Waters added that the construction costs could go up over time if construction is delayed.

**E. Renewable Energy**

Mr. Murphy met with Mr. Jarrell and found him to be very knowledgeable in the various energy alternatives. He was pleased to hear that the water treatment plant is its own entity and because it is private solar companies can contact the water treatment plant directly to market their alternate energy sources. He explained that Mr. Jarrell is interested in seeing where solar or geothermal can work on the newer or larger City construction projects. Mr. Murphy stated that if he is appointed he will continue these efforts.

**F     DNEP Report**

Mr. Waters announced that there is a Tree Giveaway scheduled for May 10, 2014 and Mr. van Zutphen asked for volunteers. Those interested should email Mr. Waters or Mr. van Zutphen.

**G.     Environmental Matters Committee (EMC) – Mayor May 2, 2014 Meeting**

**Chair** Riegel reported that there was an EMC meeting on April 17, 201 and the focus of the discussion was budget oriented aimed at saving positions in the DNEP and P&Z departments. The EMC was sympathetic toward protecting those positions so that funding is not lost. Mr. Biba added that the Finance Committee will be presenting their budget on May 12, 2014 and the saving of positions will also be discussed at the Council meeting. **Chair** Riegel said that Alderman Littman is interested in quantified metrics for the environment specifically in satisfying them so there is interested in whether there is measured progress. Alderman Littman is also interested identifying those things where it is impossible to meet the goals and to find a way to meet them.

The Mayor's Breakfast was held on May 2, 2014 and those attending were Kevin Green-South River Federation, Lina Vlavianos-Severn River Commission, Anne Gillette-Greenways and Alderman Littman. He explained that each of these discussed their environmental priorities. **Chair** Riegel restated that the AEC hot topics were the forest conservation act and protecting the public's interest. Alderman Littman discussed the issues relating to quorums and submitting two names to fill the AEC's vacancies. Mr. Green mentioned two or three projects that are in progress by South River Federation specifically Church Creek restoration project and invited the AEC to visit the site potentially on May 16, 2014. He agreed to confirm the date. Mr. Weber visited the site **on a previous occasion** and didn't recall seeing **problems that** required restoration. He asked about the restoration project at **Forest Drive and Hilltop Lane**. Mr. Biba noted that the work at this site was being completed by AACO for mitigation purposes. **Chair** Riegel noted that Ms. Vlavianos encouraged the Mayor to revisit the No Discharge Zone. Alderman Littman believes that the AEC should have some regulatory review so he Mr. Biba, Ms. Broadbent will be drafting language that addresses this issue.

**H.     Commission Member Vacancies**

The Mayor has committed to submitting two names to EMC for approval to serve on the AEC.

**IV.    New Business**

**Chair** Riegel noted that there are three potential guests to invite to the AEC future meetings. He said that Mr. Rick Anthony and Mr. Larry Tom **could** discuss the **Anne Arundel Greenways Master Plan**. Mr. Weber suggested Ms. Jennings would like to make a presentation on behalf of the Eco-Action Committee on **pervious** sidewalks. **Chair** Riegel mentioned that Alex **Pline** wants to give a presentation on the **Complete Streets** program. The AEC was amenable to inviting all of them.

**V.     ADJOURNMENT**

The discussion was closed at 9:06pm. **The next AEC meeting was scheduled for June 4, 2014 at 7:00pm at 145 Gorman Street but has since been changed to June 11, 2014, same time and location.**

Tami Hook, Recorder